

behavior. The anger would be perfectly justified.

Mexican officials are not attacking the United States, but U.S. Border Patrol agents are attacking the Colonia Libertad neighborhood of Tijuana. Mexicans have every right to be as angry as we would be if the roles were reversed.

In response to smugglers who are pelting Border Patrol agents in order to create a diversion, the Americans are stepping up their efforts. "Agents have used pepper spray in the past, but usually aimed directly at the smugglers," the Los Angeles Times reported Friday. "The new tactics, which saturate large areas, have forced dozens of temporary evacuations and sent some residents to hospitals."

The Mexican Consulate has complained, and rightly so. The United States is not at war with Mexico, and it makes sense to maintain friendly relations with our southern neighbor.

Border Patrol officials argued that the agents need to protect themselves, and that the smugglers should be blamed for hiding behind innocent people. Well, there are better ways to protect against criminals than to saturate entire neighborhoods with tear-gas canisters. For starters, the Border Patrol could engage in cooperative efforts with the Tijuana police or the Mexican federal authorities to go after the rock-throwers.

We understand that the issue of illegal immigration is extremely contentious, but even those advocating tougher U.S. enforcement measures should agree that there need to be limits to the policy. It's hard to make the argument that Mexicans are trampling our sovereignty while we so eagerly trample theirs.

#### IN HONOR OF MARY MILLS RITCHIE

#### HON. CHARLES W. "CHIP" PICKERING

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 19, 2007

Mr. PICKERING. Madam Speaker, as we wrap up this year in Congress, I want to honor Mary Mills Ritchie, who left my staff earlier this year to return to Mississippi. She was a dedicated member of my staff who honorably served my office and the people of Mississippi.

Mary Mills came to my office as our staff assistant in 2003, after graduating from the University of Mississippi earlier that year, and Jackson Preparatory School in 1999. She demonstrated her abilities to understand and affect public policy and with her dedicated work ethic, her role grew to Legislative Assistant for health care policy.

She managed this legislative portfolio at a critical time, as we worked with seniors and communities to implement the Medicare Reform Act of 2003 that provides prescription drug benefits to needy Americans. She served as my liaison to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services and assisted pharmacists, hospitals, and other health care providers in Mississippi move through the Washington bureaucratic.

Following Hurricane Katrina, she played a critical role as we inserted language in the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 that provided funds for 8½ months of Mississippi's state

Medicaid budget: \$850 million in budget relief at a time when Mississippi was straining under the pressures of disaster recovery.

While working in Washington, she met a young man from Texas named Spencer Ritchie and they married in March of 2005. But rather than carrying her away to the Lone Star State, she converted him into a Mississippian. He is now in law school at the University of Mississippi, where she works in Oxford.

Mary Mills' hard work and success is a tribute to her parents, Sam and Leila Lane. I know they and her brothers, Samuel and Ben, are very proud of her.

Madam Speaker, Mary Mills Ritchie left a formative mark on my health care agenda and on our office. We will not forget her good nature or her eagerness to learn and work. She possesses a rare grace and presence. This unique spirit carries her compassion and commitment to help, teach and serve others. She continues to bless the lives of all who know her. I thank her for her service to this office and to Mississippi.

#### RECOGNIZING MONTY SLOUGH AND THE DENTON COUNTY VETERANS MEMORIAL

#### HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 19, 2007

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to thank Mr. Monty Slough of Little Elm, Texas for his years of service in the United States Armed Forces, and for his continued service to our country by building a memorial to veterans from Denton County, Texas.

After checking records at the Department of Veterans Affairs, Monty identified the names of nine fallen service members and created a personal way to memorialize their service. Without prompting or financial support, Mr. Slough began building a granite tiled memorial to Denton County soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines who died in service in Iraq or Afghanistan.

Mr. Slough has taken up the honorable but unfortunate task of paying respect to fellow veterans who pay the ultimate price while serving our country. In his own eloquent words Monty said, "This isn't going to bring them back, but they sure as hell are not going to be forgotten."

The mobile memorial built by veterans Monty Slough and Dee Cork is an example of why we hold our Nation's veterans in such high esteem. I believe the character displayed by Mr. Slough and Mr. Cork should be highlighted as an example of American civic duty and community support; I rise here today to show them that courtesy.

It is with great honor that I recognize Mr. Monty Slough of Little Elm, Texas for his dedication to veterans and their families. I thank him for his work, I support his mission, and I am honored to represent him in the 26th District of Texas.

#### TERRORISM RISK INSURANCE PROGRAM REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

#### HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 18, 2007

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Madam Speaker, In 2002, we enacted the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act in an attempt to stabilize the economy following the tragic events of September 11, 2001 and to protect against economic catastrophe should another attack occur. This important program is set to expire at the end of the year, and it is essential that we reauthorize TRIA.

The legislation before us is not the strong bill we passed in September or the compromise we passed last week, and it is not a perfect bill. It extends TRIA by only 7 years and does not include the strong new provisions that were included in the other bills we passed. However, this legislation does do one vital thing: it works to ensure the stability of our economy should another national crisis occur. For this very important reason, I support this legislation today but hope we can pass a stronger bill in the future.

#### IN REMEMBRANCE OF ANGELO WEDO

#### HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 19, 2007

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Angelo Wedo, a former shoemaker's helper and railroad worker, who served ten years as mayor of Brook Park, Ohio.

Born in Windber, PA, Angelo was the son of Italian immigrants. After graduating with a degree in accounting from Lehigh University, Angelo moved to the Cleveland area, where he worked as an accountant for Pre-form Marine Products before and after his stint as mayor.

In 1961, Angelo was elected Brook Park city treasurer. He served as Ward 4 councilman from 1966 to 1970 and as council president for two years before becoming mayor.

Angelo served as mayor from 1972 to 1981 and is credited for playing an integral role in establishing the city's first recreation center. In appreciation of his commitment to recreation facilities, a city park was named in his honor.

Angelo was the devoted husband of Sondra and the loving father of Greg, Michelle, Tony, Valerie, and Vicki. He was the cherished grandfather of six grandchildren.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Angelo Wedo, an enthusiastic member of the Brook Park community and dedicated servant of local government. May his commitment to Brook Park serve as an example to all of us.